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TODAY SEES CRISIS IN R. R. STRIKE SITUATION

Break Seems Certain in Negotiations Between Railroad Heads and Employees, the Latter Refusing to Concede a Point, Though Final Action Is Deferred Till 10 o'clock This Morning, When Session Will Be Held

Washington, Aug. 26.—Call for a nation-wide strike was averted until tomorrow, at least, when the railroad employees tonight adjourned their third session of the day until 10 a. m. tomorrow.

Many of the brotherhood district presidents who had planned to leave the city tonight changed their arrangements after the first meeting adjourned at one o'clock. The fighting spirit had grown tremendously among the men this afternoon when they held their second session of the day. One of the prominent members said:

"We have nothing to concede. There will be a strike unless there is governmental interference or concessions by the railroads."

Washington, Aug. 26.—With dramatic and sinister suddenness a crisis came today in the negotiations to prevent the threatened railway strike.

A break between the railroad brotherhoods, representing 400,000 men, and the railroad presidents, representing \$12,000,000,000 capital, seemed certain.

Sixty railroad presidents called here a week ago by President Wilson have ignored his peace proposal and decided to submit a substitute proposition, which even the most optimistic feel the brotherhoods will turn down.

It provides: That an eight-hour day, inasmuch as theory and practice on this question differ widely, must not be tried until after arbitration and investigation.

That the question of wages, overtime and other collateral details, being by their nature arbitrable, an impartial board or commission should be designated to pass on all these matters.

That the roads will abide by the decision of such an impartial body, the findings of the board or commission to take effect from the time arbitration begins.

The roads in the proposal now agreed on among themselves request no beneficial legislation and no increased rates. They suggest only that in the event of arbitration and investigation of the eight-hour work-

ing day an impartial commission do the work.

The proposition is less than 400 words long. It is the first concrete plan that has been voted on at any time by the railroad heads and met with unanimous approval.

It is the only proposal that will come from the roads, according to one of the leading executives today, and, he added, "it is better than the brotherhood leaders deserve. If they don't like it, they know what they can do."

Washington, Aug. 26.—"We are ready."

This statement came today from both railroad executives and employees as a national transportation paralysis loomed up. Railroad managers contended that they could keep sufficient trains running through "loyal" employees to prevent a milk and food famine—and its consequent garnering of death and desolation.

The employees said there might be a few ready to continue laboring, but that the roads as a whole would be tied up tighter than a drum.

In the railroad camp the grimest fighters said, "Put white lead on the engines and lay everything off."

The most conservative said, "We must see that the babies have their milk and the nation its food."

Down the street the employees said the guilt for ruin or starvation would lie upon the railroad kings.

It developed today that while the railroad presidents have been wrestling with the problem of meeting President Wilson's proposal, the managers, somewhat sidetracked from the phase of the situation, have been working out plans for handling an actual strike if it comes.

A comprehensive plan is complete, they now declare. It includes details of train operation. Emergency schedules have been made and it is known that since the beginning of the negotiations embargoes on some commodities have been considered. One railroad official said that immediately upon declaration of a strike embargoes will be placed on war munitions and dry goods and non-perishable commodities not regarded as necessities.

The first thought of the railroads will be to carry foodstuffs.

TEUTON AND TURK FLEE BEFORE THE SLAV ADVANCE

Petrograd, Aug. 26.—The Russians have resumed their advance in the region of Stanislaw after nearly a week's lull in the fighting, capturing the village of Guta and reaching the sources of the Bistritza and Bistritza-Nadvorna rivers. It was officially claimed today.

In the Caucasus the Russian force that recaptured Mush pushed on to the ridge of Kurdagui. The pursuit of the remnants of the fourth Turkish division defeated in the Mosul region continues.

KING JOY REIGNS IN COOS BAY DISTRICT

Marshfield, Aug. 26.—This was Marshfield's big day in the railroad jubilee celebration, marking the completion of the railway connecting Coos Bay points with Eugene and the main line.

Toiling of whistles by a half dozen locomotives awoke the town. Visitors saw the word "Salem" plastered everywhere, a bit of advertising done by the Cherrians, just arrived from Salem. Dawn also brought shouts for help from the Eugene Radiators, imprisoned all night in the old English convict ship Success by practical jokers.

Hundreds of visitors arrived by boat, automobile, and even in old, mule-drawn conveyances from the mountains. A number of high Southern Pacific officials were on hand. While several quartettes sang, serenading incoming cars, a festive-looking balloon sailed over Coos bay and the biggest logging train ever made up arrived from Powers, with scores of picturesque loggers shouting and cheering above the uproar.

Tonight an illuminated launch parade is on the program.

The San Francisco delegation has started for home.

CHARGE FRENCH WITH ATROCITY

Berlin, via Sayville, Aug. 26.—Charges that the French have introduced a new body of men whose sole duty is to assassinate all living German soldiers in conquered trenches with knives, revolvers and hand grenades, were made in a statement given out by the semi-official News Agency today.

The statement was headed "Barbarons of the Trenches," recalling the murder of German submariners by the crew of the British ship Baralong. "The French sometime ago introduced a new fighting system which is the most cowardly and flagrant violation of the laws known up to the present," it was stated. "Within French companies special detachments are formed with the expressed order to remain behind in conquered trenches and kill all Germans still alive."

"These troops are called 'Nettoyeurs.' Their equipment is not the rifle, cartridges and bayonet of the other soldiers, but the revolver, knife and hand grenade. When a French attacking column succeeds in taking a trench, the 'Nettoyeurs' start clearing the trench of all living persons; that is, assassinating the Germans. Hand grenades are thrown into the dugouts, where often there are wounded. Those who escape the grenades are killed by revolver shots and knives when they attempt to come out. This terrible slaughter is continued from man to man. Every man, whether wounded or not, is mercilessly stabbed or shot."

Mr. and Mrs. William McCredie returned to Central Point yesterday morning, after a few days attending to business affairs in the city.

CONGRESS IS VISITED BY PRESIDENT

Wilson Makes Unexpected Call at Capitol Saturday for Conference With Senators Over Strike Crisis

Washington, Aug. 26.—President Wilson arrived at the capitol at 2:33 p. m., without advance notice of his intention to call on congress.

The president went immediately to the "President's room," off the senate chamber.

He sent at once for Senator Newlands, chairman of the senate interstate commerce committee, and Senator Kern, democratic floor leader.

At the Willard hotel, railroad presidents, in their "rival sessions" directing a proposal to submit to the president, were puzzled by the news that he had gone to the capitol. They said they knew of no step he could take until they had given him the proposition on which they had been working all day.

After President Wilson and the two senators, with Secretary Tamm, who arrived after the president, had been in conference for 38 minutes, the president himself came out and spoke to the waiting newspaper men.

He said he had come to the capitol on "certain matters of legislation." He could not discuss his visit beyond that point, he said.

"I hope that is satisfactory," he said in conclusion.

He left immediately for the White House, Kern and Newlands returning to the senate floor.

Senator Newlands, prior to the arrival of the president, had discussed informally with other senators the enactment of legislation bearing on the railroad controversy. One subject he took was that of increasing the membership of the interstate commerce commission to nine members, thus adding two.

Senator Kern, in reply to questions, said there was no chance that there would be any action on the floor of the senate this afternoon on the strike situation. Nor was there any chance of such action in committee, he said.

ENEMY TRENCHES TAKEN BY BRITISH

London, Aug. 26.—The British left wing on the Somme front broke out with a new attack against the German positions defending Thiepval village last night and captured 400 yards more of enemy trenches. General Haig reported to the war office this afternoon.

The new British gain reported by Haig was made near Mouquet farm. The British commander reported German counter-attacks south of Thiepval, but declared these attacks were repulsed. Repulse of German attacks west of Guillemont was also announced.

The German war office account of last night's operations on this front contradicted Haig's statement. Berlin announced this afternoon that British attacks, both on the Thiepval and Highwood sectors, were repelled and that the French were unsuccessful in attacks near Maurepas.

The deadlock in the Balkan fighting continued throughout yesterday. The Serbs are holding their own on the extreme allied left and have delivered several strong counter-attacks, the Bulgarian war office reports that the Serbs, in each instance, have been repulsed.

On the eastern front the Russians have again taken the initiative southwest of Stanislaw and after occupying the village of Guta pressed on westward.

MIMIC NAVAL BATTLE FOUGHT BY U. S. FLEET

Washington, Aug. 26.—A great naval "battle" has been raging off New York harbor for six hours.

The main battle fleet of Admiral Helm, defending the coast, engaged the "enemy" fleet of Admiral Mayo at 5 o'clock off Scotland lightship, at the entrance to New York harbor. Helm's fleet opened fire with 12-inch guns.

Eight war vessels—two battleships, one scout cruiser and five destroyers—already have been "sunk" in the naval war game. The defending fleet sank the "enemy" battleships Texas and Nevada and the "enemy" destroyers Wadsworth and Cooper. Admiral Helm, has so far "lost" the scout cruiser Birmingham and the destroyers Fanning, Drayton and Balch.

It is believed here that the "enemy" battleships were "destroyed" early in the fight by destroyers.

The sunken ships, under the rules of the game, have to put into Atlantic ports. Large bodies of theoretically wounded have been rushed to naval hospitals and the hospital wards of both fleets at sea are rapidly filling.

If the assumption that the enemy battleships were torpedoed is correct, naval officers here see great "loss of life" for those two vessels.

The "enemy" transport train of 30 vessels is reported to be lying back of the attacking fleet, waiting for a chance to slip by the defending lines and rush thousands of hostile troops inland. Guns of all calibre aboard both fleets are in action and destroyer and submarine skirmishes are occurring constantly. As last reported, each commander was maneuvering for position to bring the greatest possible number of guns to bear. The navy department announced that the battle limit expires at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

G. A. R. GATHERING FOR ENCAMPMENT

Kansas City, Aug. 26.—The Grand Army of the Republic opened national headquarters today at the Hotel Muehlebach, with Commander-in-Chief Monfort and staff on duty. Information booths were opened in various places to aid the incoming veterans get settled today, ready for the opening of the national encampment Monday.

Religious services in the various churches tomorrow will be under G. A. R. auspices.

From the roof of the city hall this message fluttered forth by wireless to President Wilson:

"The Grand Army of the Republic, pledged to fraternity, charity and loyalty, sends greetings to all nations and peoples, hoping that time will speedily come when the banner of peace, brotherhood and of equal rights to all men will be unfurled in all lands. Elias R. Monfort."

MURDER CHARGE AGAINST WOMAN

Mount Clemens, Mich., Aug. 26.—Moved by sympathy for Mrs. Emil Pettit, who must answer a charge of first degree murder for having shot and killed her husband, Robert Pettit, in this city August 17, guests and employees of a local hotel have raised a sum of money to aid in her defense.

Mrs. Pettit will be formally arraigned in justice court next Monday, and it is said the reading of the warrant will be waived in order to seek to establish grounds for a plea of temporary insanity.

Oscar Langerhausen, a local attorney, has been retained for the defense, and it is reported that Warren S. Stone, a prominent member of the McComb county bar, will be secured to defend the woman.

VON KLUCK SAYS ALLIES FAIL IN SOMME CAMPAIGN

German War Chief Comments on Progress of the War, and Tells United Press Correspondent That End of Conflict Will Come With the Suddenness of an Accident, Though Germans Are Confident of Victory

By Carl W. Ackerman.

Strausberg, Germany, Aug. 26.—In eight weeks of tremendous effort, with lavish expenditure of human flesh and blood and ammunition, the allies not only have failed to break the German line on the Somme but have not even badly bent it, General Alexander von Kluck, who commanded the German right in the great advance to the gates of Paris, told the United Press today.

"In eight weeks of fighting they have gained a few kilometers at terrible losses," said the German war hero. "The English have accomplished practically nothing. They have only exposed themselves to our counter-attacks, which will certainly come."

We were seated in the smoking room of Wilkendorf castle, near Strausberg. Before us was a map of the Somme battle line. General von Kluck first explained the positions held by his army when he was in command on this front before he was wounded. The territory the allies are now trying to break through is the same ground across which von Kluck hurried with his army during the first advance into France in the fall of 1914. After 22 months of fighting, the battle line at this front shows little change, except that the Germans have been pushed back a few kilometers.

"The British losses on the Somme have been terrible," continued von Kluck. "They have been much greater than ours. The English had to put new men into each attack. Their losses must exceed ours by at least 100,000."

"Is that many for the large army England is reported to have?" he was asked.

"The decisive thing is always to have plenty of men," he replied, "but when there is a great offensive like this Anglo-French movement and little progress is made; when the losses are great and no progress is evident, the spirit of the troops weakens and that weakens the offensive."

"It is reported abroad that Germany is facing a great military crisis now that the allies are attacking on several fronts and it is even rumored that it will not be long before she will collapse," he was told.

"You can see for yourself that there is no crisis," the general laughingly replied. "Eight weeks have passed since the Anglo-French offensive began. The preparations for it must be called immense. England has brought armies that might never have newspaper sired up the situation been expected of that country, thanks to Kitchener's labor—and it wistacks courage for peace."

ARCTIC EXPLORING SCHOONER GREAT BEAR IS WRECKED IN BERING SEA

San Francisco, Aug. 26.—The power schooner Great Bear, used by the Borden-Bane expedition in the Arctic, was wrecked on a rock in the Bering sea, according to a wireless report here from the coast guard cutter McCulloch, sent in search of the vessel, which was ten days overdue at Nome.

The wreck occurred August 10 during a gale. The vessel was lost but the party landed safely at St. Mathew's island, where they were found by the McCulloch.

John Borden, of Chicago, and Captain Louis Lane, of this city, organizers of the expedition, and Norris Bokkum, navigator, were aboard in addition to the crew.

Mrs. Charles D. Lane, mother of the explorer, today stated that, know-

ing her son's ability as a seaman, she had not been worried when the vessel was reported overdue. The expedition was partly for trading and partly for pleasure. The intention was to land at Nome, where several Californians were to have joined the vessel on a big game hunt along the Siberian coast.

"The moment of the attack seemed well chosen, because Germany, during the weeks before, was supposed to be suffering under shortages caused by the blockade. Before the possibility of a splendid harvest became known to the allies, they became convinced that only a great military success was needed to bring the wavering spirit of Germany—wavering, as they supposed—to her knees."

"The battle of the Somme has now raged for several weeks. Despite a tremendous use of ammunition and repeated stores of human material, the result of the general offensive is now unimportant when compared to the great waste of physical and moral stands unshaken, despite the hardest forward and backward fighting, where the opposing armies are locked in a struggle like two stags."

"A change has taken place in the former victorious tone of the French press of a few weeks ago. The French newspapers now ask their readers to be patient and not to ask too much. 'On all the fronts of the German armies and throughout Germany is the firm belief in victory.'

"A United Press dispatch from Verdun spoke of the moral power of the German troops. This is the same on all fronts and it is this spiritual force, as every historian knows, that is the decisive thing that will end the present struggle."

"The conversation turned toward Field Marshal French, who was von Kluck's opponent in the battle of Mons. I began to make notes of the general's remarks."

"Please don't write that," he said. "During the war we must not talk of our opponents. It is always best to speak well, even of your opponents, but there are many things about the story of this war that, conclusively written, would constitute a whole library."

"How long do you think the war will last?" was one question I put to the general.

"It can last years or days," was his reply. "The end of the war will come as suddenly as an accident. A Swiss brought armies that might never have newspaper sired up the situation been expected of that country, thanks to Kitchener's labor—and it wistacks courage for peace."

GOV. HUGHES TELLS THE MILE HIGH CLUB THAT UNIFIED AMERICA IS AIM

Denver, Aug. 26.—One mile above sea level and the guest of the Mile High club, Republican Nominee Hughes today pleaded strongly for a unified and co-operating America. According to the candidate himself, the speech was not intended to be partisan. But he laid emphatic stress upon the necessity for republican doctrines in government handling of its business and economic problems.

The governor was greeted as "Charley Hughes" by a double octet of enthusiastic Brown alumni when he entered the dining hall and throughout the luncheon the Brownians vociferously sang the songs of the governor's alma mater, the candidate grinning and joining in with vim.

At the same table with Hughes sat the democratic mayor of Denver, Robert W. Speer, and the democratic gubernatorial candidate, Julius G. Guter.

Others were Dr. Livingston Farrand, president of the University of

Colorado, and Dr. W. F. Slocum, president of Colorado college.

Hughes was informed that in 1908 the Mile High club had entertained a man who had gone back to New Jersey to become its governor, and later the same man was entertained—and went to become president of the United States.

Hughes remarked that he did not know whether it was a good omen or not to be president—but he was certainly appreciative. He spoke of the eagerness with which he had looked forward to a stay in Colorado and rest after the difficult campaigning trip.

"I believe there is a new spirit abroad in the land," he said. "I think there are very few business men today who try to get a citadel along the highway of commerce and hold up the public and force it to pay tribute. The business man of today is a sound man, an efficient man, a man of democratic bearing, who is looking for enterprise, but legitimate enterprise."